GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2017
ANSWERED ON:13.03.2008
INDIA AFRICA HYDROCARBON CONFERENCE
Jindal Shri Naveen

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether an India-Africa Hydrocarbon Conference was held in November, 2007;

(b) if so, the agenda of the Conference and the names of the participating countries;

(c) the details of the outcome of the conference; and

(d) the extent to which it is likely to reduce India's dependence on the OPEC?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA PATEL)

(a). Yes, Sir.

(b). The agenda of the Conference and Exhibition was to promote a mutually beneficial partnership between Indian and African public and private sector companies and also to showcase India's capabilities in the field of oil and gas. Participating countries in this event were:

1. Ethiopia
2. Mauritius
3. Chad
4. Sudan
5. Mozambique
6. Namibia
7 Comoros
8. Malawi,
9. Tanzania
10. Mauritania
11. Algeria
12. Kenya
13. Libya
14. Zambia
15. Egypt
16. Senegal
17. Cote d' Ivoire
18. Niger
19. South Africa
20. Tunisia
21. Morocco
22. Togo
23. Central African Republic
24. Democratic Republic Of Congo
25. Ghana
26.Nigeria.

(c). A road map of cooperation was drawn out,the contours of which envisage

(i) Hydrocarbon Cooperation Agreements at the macro level to identify the broad areas of cooperation in the field of Exploration and Production and Refining ;

(ii) stepping up crude oil imports, and exports of petro-products, by India;

(iii) technology transfer and cooperation in R&D;

(iv) retail marketing of Fuels and Lubricants by Indian Companies in Africa; and

(v) training of technical and managerial personnel of African nations in hydrocarbon industry management.

(d). At present, it is not possible to quantify the reduction, if any, of India's dependence on the OPEC as a sequel to this Conference.